

APPENDIX A
PUBLIC. LAW 105-355 – NOV. 6,1998

TITLE III –TUSKEGEE AIRMEN
NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, ALABAMA

SEC. 301. DEFINITIONS.

As used in this title:

(1) HISTORIC SITE — The term "historic site" means the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site as established by section 303.

(2) SECRETARY—The term "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

(3) TUSKEGEE AIRMEN —The term "Tuskegee Airmen" means the thousands of men and women who were trained at Tuskegee University's Moton Field to serve in America's African-American Air Force units during World War II and those men and women who participate in the Tuskegee Experience today, who are represented by Tuskegee Airmen, Inc.

(4) TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY—The term "Tuskegee University" means the institution of higher education by that name located in the State of Alabama and founded by Booker T. Washington in 1881, formerly named Tuskegee Institute.

SEC. 302. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS—The Congress finds the following:

- (1) The struggle of African-Americans for greater roles in North American military conflicts spans the 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th centuries. Opportunities for African-American participation in the United States military were always very limited and controversial. Quotas, exclusion, and racial discrimination were based on the prevailing attitude in the United States, particularly on the part of the United States military, that African-Americans did not possess the intellectual capacity, aptitude, and skills to be successful fighters.
- (2) As late as the 1940's these perceptions continued within the United States military. Key leaders within the United States Army Air Corps did not believe that African-Americans possessed the capacity to become successful military pilots. After succumbing to pressure exerted by civil rights groups and the black press, the Army decided to train a small number of African-American pilot cadets under special conditions. Although prejudice and discrimination against African-Americans was a national phenomenon, not just a southern trait, it was more intense in the South where it had hardened into rigidly enforced patterns of segregation. Such was the environment where the military chose to locate the training of the Tuskegee Airmen.
- (3) The military selected Tuskegee Institute (now known as Tuskegee University) as a civilian contractor for a variety of reasons. These included the school's existing facilities, engineering and technical instructors, and a climate with ideal flying conditions year round. Tuskegee Institute's strong interest in providing aeronautical training for African-American youths was also an important factor. Students from the school's civilian pilot training program had some of the best test scores when compared to other students from programs across the Southeast.
- (4) In 1941 the United States Army Air Corps awarded a contract to Tuskegee Institute to operate a primary flight school at Moton Field. Tuskegee Institute (now known as Tuskegee University) chose an African-American contractor who designed and constructed Moton Field, with the assistance of its faculty and students, as the site for its military pilot training program. The field was named for the school's second president, Robert Russa Moton. Consequently, Tuskegee Institute was one of a very few American institutions (and the only African-American institution) to own, develop, and control facilities for military flight instruction.
- (5) Moton Field, also known as the Primary Flying Field or Airport Number 2, was the only primary flight training facility for African-American pilot candidates in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II. The facility symbolizes the entrance of African-American pilots into the

United States Army Air Corps, although on the basis of a policy of segregation that was mandated by the military and institutionalized in the South. The facility also symbolizes the singular role of Tuskegee Institute (Tuskegee University) in providing leadership as well as economic and educational resources to make that entry possible.

- (6) The Tuskegee Airmen were the first African-American soldiers to complete their training successfully and to enter the United States Army Air Corps. Almost 1,000 aviators were trained as America's first African-American military pilots. In addition, more than 10,000 military and civilian African-American men and women served as flight instructors, officers, bombardiers, navigators, radio technicians, mechanics, air traffic controllers, parachute riggers, electrical and communications specialists, medical professionals, laboratory assistants, cooks, musicians, supply, firefighting, and transportation personnel.
- (7) Although military leaders were hesitant to use the Tuskegee Airmen in combat, the Airmen eventually saw considerable action in North Africa and Europe. Acceptance from United States Army Air Corps units came slowly, but their courageous and, in many cases, heroic performance earned them increased combat opportunities and respect.
- (8) The successes of the Tuskegee Airmen proved to the American public that African-Americans, when given the opportunity, could become effective military leaders and pilots. This helped pave the way for desegregation of the military, beginning with President Harry S. Truman's Executive Order 9981 in 1948. The Tuskegee Airmen's success also helped set the stage for civil rights advocates to continue the struggle to end racial discrimination during the civil rights movement of the 1950s and the 1960s.
- (9) The story of the Tuskegee Airmen also reflects the struggle of African-Americans to achieve equal rights, not only through legal attacks on the system of segregation, but also through the techniques of nonviolent direct action. The members of the 477th Bombardment Group, who staged a nonviolent demonstration to desegregate the officer's club at Freeman Field Indiana, helped set the pattern for direct action protests popularized by civil rights activities in later decades.

(b) **PURPOSES**—The purposes of this title are the following:

- (1) To inspire present and future generations to strive for excellence by understanding and appreciating the heroic legacy of the Tuskegee Airmen, through interpretation and education, and the preservation of cultural resources at Moton Field, which was the site of primary flight training.
- (2) To commemorate and interpret –
 - a. The impact of the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II;
 - b. The training process for the Tuskegee Airmen, including the roles played by Moton Field, other training facilities, and related sites;
 - c. The African-American struggle for greater participation in the United States Armed Forces and more significant roles in defending their country;
 - d. The significance of successes of the Tuskegee Airmen in leading to desegregation of the United States Armed Forces shortly after World War II; and
 - e. The impacts of Tuskegee Airmen accomplishments on subsequent civil rights advances of the 1950's and 1960's.
- (3) To recognize the strategic role of Tuskegee Institute (now Tuskegee University) in training the airmen and commemorating them at this historic site.

SEC. 303. ESTABLISHMENT OF TUSKEGEE AIRMEN NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE.

(a) **ESTABLISHMENT**—In order to commemorate and interpret, in association with Tuskegee University, the heroic actions of the Tuskegee Airmen during World War II, there is hereby established as a unit of the National Park System the Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site in the State of Alabama.

(b) **DESCRIPTION OF HISTORIC SITE**—

- (1) **INITIAL PARCEL**— The historic site shall consist of approximately 44 acres, including approximately 35 acres owned by Tuskegee university and approximately 9 acres owned by

the City of Tuskegee, known as Moton Field, in Macon County, Alabama, as generally depicted on a map entitled "Tuskegee Airmen National Historic Site boundary Map", number NHS-TA-80,000, and dated September 1998. Such map shall be on file and available for public inspection in appropriate offices of the National Park Service.

- (2) **SUBSEQUENT EXPANSION**— Upon completion of agreements regarding the development and operation of the Tuskegee Airmen National Center as described in subsection 304, the Secretary is authorized to acquire approximately 46 additional acres owned by Tuskegee University as generally depicted on the map referenced in paragraph (1). Lands acquired by the Secretary pursuant to this paragraph shall be administered by the Secretary as part of the historic site.

(c) **PROPERTY ACQUISITION**—The Secretary may acquire by donation, exchange, or purchase with donated or appropriated funds the real property described in subsection (b), except that any property owned by the State of Alabama, any political subdivision thereof, or Tuskegee University may be acquired only by donation. Property donated by Tuskegee University shall be used only for purposes consistent with the purposes of this title. The Secretary may also acquire by the same methods personal property associated with, and appropriate for, the interpretation of the historic site.

(d) **ADMINISTRATION OF HISTORIC SITE**—

- (1) **IN GENERAL**—The secretary shall administer the historic site in accordance with this title and the laws generally applicable to units of the National Park System, including the Act of August 25, 1916 (commonly known as the National Park Service Organic Act; 16 U.S.C. 1 et seq.), and the Act of August 21, 1935 (commonly known as the Historic Sites, Buildings, and Antiquities Act; 16 U.S.C. 461 et seq.).
- (2) **ROLE OF THE TUSKEGEE UNIVERSITY**—The Secretary shall consult with Tuskegee University as its principal partner in determining the organizational structure, developing the ongoing interpretive themes, and establishing policies for the wise management, use and development of the historic site. With the agreement of Tuskegee University, the Secretary shall engage appropriate departments, and individual members of the University's staff, faculty, and students in the continuing work of helping to identify, research, explicate, interpret, and format materials for the historic site. Through the President of the University, or with the approval of the President of the University, the Secretary shall seek to engage Tuskegee alumni in the task of providing artifacts and historical information for the historic site.
- (3) **ROLE OF TUSKEGEE AIRMEN**—The Secretary in cooperation with Tuskegee University shall work with the Tuskegee Airmen to facilitate the acquisition of artifacts, memorabilia and historical research for interpretive exhibits and to support their efforts to raise funds for the development of visitor facilities and programs at the historic site.
- (4) **DEVELOPMENT**— Operation and development of the historic site shall reflect Alternative C, Living History: The Tuskegee Airmen Experience, as expressed in the final special resource study entitled "Moton Field/Tuskegee Airmen Special Resource Study", dated 1998. Subsequent development of the historic site shall reflect Alternative D after an agreement is reached with Tuskegee University on the development of the Tuskegee Airmen National Center as described in section 304.

(e) **COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS GENERALLY**—The Secretary may enter into cooperative agreements with Tuskegee University, other education institutions, the Tuskegee Airmen, individuals, private and public organizations, and other Federal agencies in furtherance of the purposes of this title. The Secretary shall consult with Tuskegee University in the formulation of any major cooperative agreements with other universities or Federal agencies that may affect Tuskegee University's interests in the historic site. To every extent possible, the Secretary shall seek to complete cooperative agreements requiring the use of higher educational institutions with and through Tuskegee University.

SEC. 304. TUSKEGEE AIRMEN NATIONAL CENTER.

(a) COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT—The Secretary shall enter into a cooperative agreement with Tuskegee University to define the partnership needed to develop the Tuskegee Airmen National Center on the grounds of the historic site.

(b) PURPOSE OF CENTER—The purpose of the Tuskegee Airmen National Center shall be to extend the ability to relate more fully the story of the Tuskegee Airmen at Moton Field. The center shall provide for a Tuskegee Airmen Memorial, shall provide large exhibit space for the display of period aircraft and equipment used by the Tuskegee Airmen, and shall house a Tuskegee University Department of Aviation Science. The Secretary shall insure that interpretive programs for visitors benefit from the University's active pilot training instruction program, and the historical continuum of flight training in the tradition of the Tuskegee Airmen. The Secretary is authorized to permit the Tuskegee University Department of Aviation Science to occupy historic buildings within the Moton Field complex until the Tuskegee Airmen National Center has been completed.

(c) REPORT— Within 1 year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in consultation with Tuskegee University and the Tuskegee Airmen, shall prepare a report on the partnership needed to develop the Tuskegee Airmen National Center, and submit the report to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

(d) TIME FOR AGREEMENT— Sixty days after the report required by subsection (c) is submitted to Congress, the Secretary may enter into the cooperative agreement under this section with Tuskegee University, and other interested partners, to implement the development and operation of the Tuskegee Airmen National Center.

SEC. 305. GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN.

Within 2 complete fiscal years after funds are first made available to carry out this title, the Secretary shall prepare, in consultation with Tuskegee University, a general management plan for the historic site and shall submit the plan to the Committee on Resources of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the Senate.

There are authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary to carry out this title, \$29,114,000.